

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 043461

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MPS, CASC, LA

GRENEVA FOR SIEVERTS

SUBJECT: DEAN/SHARMAN CASE

REF: VIENTIANE 1341

1. DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN ADDITIONAL STEPS TO PURSUE THE CASE PROPOSED IN REFTEL.

2. THE DETAILED WRITTEN INFORMATION (REFTEL, PARA 1) AND THE CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS INDICATING REPRESENTATIONS YOU HAVE MADE AND CONTAINING SUBSTANCE OF YOUR LETTERS TO PHOUMI WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL TO US HERE IN RESPONDING TO WHAT IS VERY LIKELY TO BE AN INCREASING INTEREST IN THE CASE ON THE PART OF CONGRESSMEN AND THE PRESS.

3. MR. AND MRS. DEAN HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THEY APPROACH SENATOR KENNEDY ASKING HIS INTERVENTION IN THE CASE. WE HAVE SUGGESTED TO THEM THAT HIS INTERVENTION WOULD BE MOST LIKELY TO BEAR FRUIT IF IT WERE ALONG THE LINES OF YOUR

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RECOMMENDATION (REFTEL, PARA 5). HOWARD DEAN HAS ALSO

SUGGESTED THAT H. ROSS PERROT, WHO HAS SHOWN AN INTEREST IN THE CASE, COULD PLAY A USEFUL ROLE. MR. DEAN PLANS TO BE IN WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS THE CASE FURTHER WITH US AND TO REQUEST HELP FROM OTHER USG CONTACTS HE HAS.

4. MRS. DEAN HAS ASKED FOR YOUR VIEWS ON APPROACHING SOUPHANOUVONG WITH A REQUEST FOR A REGULAR EXCHANGE OF MAIL TO AND FROM HER SON. SHE FEELS THIS PROPOSAL, IF ACCEPTED, WOULD BE AN INCREMENTAL STEP TOWARD HIS EVENTUAL RELEASE. MRS. DEAN SAID MRS. EMMETT KAY HAD A SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT DURING THE TIME SHE WAS WAITING FOR HER HUSBAND'S RELEASE. MRS. DEAN ALSO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHOM SHE SHOULD CONTACT TO OFFER HELP FOR THE ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL WORK COL. VAUGHN DESCRIBED TO HER DURING HER VISIT. KISSINGER

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